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*John J. Kelly, Jr.*

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Examiner : Caitlin A. Fogarty  
Art Unit : 4116  
Docket No. : 52433/846  
Conf. No. : 8822

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : T. HAYASHIDA et al.  
Serial No. : 10/578,145  
Filed : May 3, 2006  
For : HOT ROLLED STEEL SHEET EXCELLENT IN  
CHEMICAL CONVERTIBILITY AND METHOD OF  
PRODUCTION OF SAME

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

S I R:

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed November 7, 2007. A petition for an extension of time in which to respond to the restriction requirement accompanies this response.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the claims of Group I, i.e., claims 1 to 3, for further prosecution in this application.

This election is made with traverse because, contrary to the position taken by the restriction requirement, applicants maintain that claims 1 to 3 are novel over JP 2003-155541 to Tanahashi et al.